

Date Mailed
April 24, 1998

BEFORE THE
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Petition of Customers of the Niagara Exchange of Niagara Telephone
Company for Extended Area Service With the Iron Mountain Exchange
of Ameritech Michigan

4160-TV-100

**NOTICE OF INVESTIGATION AND
ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

On April 8, 1998, the Commission received a petition from approximately 591 customers of the Niagara exchange of Niagara Telephone Company. The petition requests extended area service (EAS) with the Iron Mountain, Michigan, exchange; telephone numbers beginning with 774, 776, and 779 in area code 906. The number of signatures is sufficient to warrant further consideration under § PSC 167.05(1), Wis. Adm. Code. Therefore, the Commission will proceed to investigate this matter in accordance with the rules set forth in ch. PSC 167, Wis. Adm. Code.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Commission will investigate this matter in accordance with its authority under ch. PSC 167, Wis. Adm. Code and §§ 196.01, 196.02, 196.03, 196.196, 196.219, 196.26, 196.37, Stats., and other sections of ch. 196 as may be pertinent.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Commission may deem it necessary in order to carry out its duties herein to investigate the books, accounts, practices, and activities of Niagara Telephone Company. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such investigation will be assessed against and collected from Niagara Telephone Company in accordance with the provisions of § 196.85, Stats., and ch. PSC 5, Wis. Adm. Code.

This is a Type III action under § PSC 4.10(3), Wis. Adm. Code. No unusual circumstances suggesting the likelihood of significant environmental consequences have come to the Commission's attention. Neither an environmental impact statement under § 1.11 Stats., nor an environmental assessment is required.

Questions on this matter may be addressed to Tom Gross, of our staff, at (608) 267-2337.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, _____

By the Commission:

Lynda L. Dorr
Secretary to the Commission

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